

## 9. CIVIL DEFENCE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT WORKING PARTY

### PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of the report is to submit for the Board's consideration the following report:

**A meeting of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Working Party  
was held on Monday 7 August 2006, in the boardroom, at 5.00 pm.**

- PRESENT:** Glenda Burt, Carmen Hammond and Don Rowlands.
- In Attendance:** Senior Sergeant Al Stewart, Deirdre Hart, Alan Cockburn, Murray Sinclair, Marie Byrne and Leanne Smith
- APOLOGIES:** Alan Hickman and Inspector Craig McKay

Glenda Burt opened the meeting by welcoming attendees to the first meeting of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Working Party.

Glenda outlined that the Working Party was established to progress the implementation of and encourage community education of Civil Defence Emergency Management in the Burwood/Pegasus ward. A tsunami would likely be the greatest impact of disasters for the Board area.

The meeting discussed the practicalities of the Coastal Evacuation Plan working and how to inform residents of an impending disaster striking.

There were concerns raised of the ability of the Police to notify all residents in the area by driving down every street with sirens on and the ability to evacuate EPH complexes, schools and hospices.

The following are outcomes of the above discussion:

- Educational information to the community has to be simple, clear and make the community feel empowered and not anxious. The 'be ready' message has to be coordinated.

It was decided to hold two community workshops for the Southshore and Central New Brighton areas, which would include North New Brighton. The workshops will be a similar model to the Northshore meeting recently held, which will provide Civil Defence and pandemic planning information to residents. The workshops to include the Police, Civil Defence and Public Health staff. The workshops to also include the positive protections the coastal has eg sand dunes.

Some other avenues of getting the 'be ready' message out to the community would be to utilise residents' association, school and Board newsletters and the Council's website, which includes the children's "What's the Plan Stan" link.

- Not to rely on one system eg phone, door knocking, police cars with sirens etc. Possibility of installing sirens along the coastal area to notify a larger number of people.

It was suggested that the Board write a letter to the Council to investigate the installation of a warning system.

- Development of fridge magnets and leaflet with simple evacuation instructions.

It was decided that the Community Engagement Adviser to investigate the costs of fridge magnets and leaflets to be provided to all coastal residents and to write a report to the Board requesting Discretionary funding.

## **WORKING PARTY RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Board:

1. Receive the information.
2. Hold two community workshops to provide Civil Defence and pandemic planning information to residents in the Southshore and Central New Brighton areas.
3. Write a letter to the Council to investigate the installation of a warning system for natural disasters.
4. That staff investigate the cost of providing evacuation details on fridge magnets and leaflets to all coastal residents and a report be submitted to the Board requesting financial assistance from the Board's Discretionary fund.